

FISCAL UPDATE News Article

Fiscal Services Division
June 13, 2016



BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING - JUNE 2016

Meeting. The Board of Regents held its regular meeting on June 9, 2016, at lowa State University. Following are some highlights from the meeting.

Fall FY 2017 Tuition Increase. The Board received a proposal for tuition increases for the upcoming fall semester and took comments from student leaders. Board action on the proposal is expected at a telephonic meeting on July 18, 2016. The proposal includes increases of \$300 annually (4.4%) for resident undergraduate tuition at the three universities. Increases in other tuition rates vary between universities. The full proposal is available at

www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/16Memos/June2016/0616_ITEM14.pdf.

Higher Education Needs in Des Moines. The Board received the results of the Higher Education Needs Assessment of the Des Moines metropolitan area, conducted by MGT of America Consulting. The consultants were asked to determine current and long-term demand for various undergraduate and graduate degree programs and certificates in the Des Moines area and to determine the optimal location from which to deliver the majority of the programs. The consultants indicated that they took into account the role of Des Moines Area Community College in the region, and they noted the variety of programs offered by private nonprofit and for-profit colleges and universities, including Drake and Grand View. However, they did not contact the private entities in conducting their research.

Needs Assessment Conclusions. The consultants' report cited a number of observations, including that undergraduate degree attainment in the Des Moines area compares favorably to 10 larger markets in the U.S. heartland but that post-baccalaureate degree attainment lags behind. Based on potential annual employment needs, calculated supply deficits, lack of local access or a unique specialty identified by local employers, the report identifies occupational categories and titles that could be served by additional higher education offerings in the Des Moines metropolitan area. The report also cites downtown Des Moines as the most positive option for a Regents Resource Center. During the presentation to the Board, however, the consultants indicated that the former AIB (American Institute of Business) campus, south of downtown and owned by the Regents, would also be a reasonable option, given the possible capital costs associated with establishing a center downtown. The revised final report is available at www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/16Memos/June2016/0616 ITEM08.pdf.

Resignation of University of Northern Iowa President. The Board accepted the previously announced resignation of William Ruud, President of the University of Northern Iowa (UNI), and appointed the current UNI Provost, Jim Wohlpart, as Interim President. The Board authorized Executive Director Bob Donley and President Pro Tem Katie Mulholland to develop a presidential search process.

TIER Efficiency Efforts. The Board received a progress report on implementation of the recommendations from the TIER business cases and academic cases. The status of the business cases at each of the universities is available at

<u>www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/16Memos/June2016/0616_ITEM12.pdf</u>. Representatives from each of the universities highlighted efforts related to the academic cases involving e-learning and distance education, space utilization and classroom scheduling, and enrollment management.

FY 2017 Special Schools Budgets. The Board approved the FY 2017 budgets for the lowa School for the Deaf (ISD) and the lowa Braille and Sight Saving School (IBSSS). The operating budget for ISD is \$11.1 million, with an additional \$1.5 million in the restricted budget. For IBSSS, the operating budget is \$8.2 million, with \$718,000 in budgeted restricted funds. More detail on the budgets is available at www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/16Memos/June2016/0616 ITEM15.pdf.

Board Policy Manual Revisions. The Board received proposed revisions to the policy manual resulting from a comprehensive review. The goal of the revisions was to:

- Make the manual clearer to understand.
- Reflect current practices.
- Eliminate duplication from the Iowa Code.
- Update financial thresholds.
- Streamline processes.

The new manual consists of four chapters - The Board and Board Office, Operations, Academics, and Institutions. Highlights of the significant changes are available at

<u>www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/16Memos/June2016/0616_ITEM13.pdf</u>. The full revised manual can be found at

www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/16Memos/June2016/PolicyManual.pdf.

More Information. The agenda from the meeting and all of the meeting materials are available at www.regents.iowa.gov/Meetings/DocketMemos/agendaitems.html.

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